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Security Information

14 November 1952

To: Chief, SR/3

From: SR/3-W2

Subject: Contact Report with CASSOWARY 15 - 13 November 1952

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. The purpose of the contact was to receive a letter which had come to the attention of CASSOWARY 2 and since it involved a past agent ~~X~~ HROMENKO - who was believed to have been captured, CASSOWARY 2 immediately forwarded the information to us. During the screening of the letter, the possibility of it having some type of secret writing was brought up. Therefore, the letter was given to the undersigned so that technical persons could ascertain whether or not this was a possibility. CASSOWARY 15 asked that the letter be returned as soon as possible since CASSOWARY 2 had gotten it through a third person. (Since then it has been discovered that TSS will not return the original but only copies).
2. The letter had been written by a woman (Julia ~~X~~ SMOLAK) living in TUCHOMKO, Poland (East Prussia) in the district of KOZELIN. A second letter had been received on 19 October 1952 but contained nothing of interest. CASSOWARY 15 stated that he checked on the average time it takes a letter to be received in the U. S. from Poland, and found it to be 5 to 6 days. He also stated that all letters written in Poland must first go to Warsaw; then they are forwarded to the addressed foreign country. He did not know of any special reason for the letters being processed through Warsaw before delivery outside of Poland.
3. CASSOWARY 15 also said that he and CASSOWARY 4 are ready and willing to undergo training. They would appreciate knowing the effective date a few weeks in advance, if possible. He also requested that a copy of the schedule be given them in advance. The language of instruction that is preferred by them is English.
4. The possibility of having each of the CASSOWARIES that receive a salary in the U. S. sign an individual receipt was proposed to CASSOWARY 15. He immediately gave a negative answer, stating that an agreement was made two years ago that they were not agents but working as an organization and the money is given to ZPUHVR for its cooperation with the U. S. Government. To date, CASSOWARY 15 has signed a receipt for the total monthly payment of salaries and expenses in the United States. This is the best arrangement that could be made by the Case Officer in lieu of the individual receipts.

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5. CASSOWARY 15 asked if it were possible for him to receive a map of the Ukraine which would aid the Soviet Study Group in their screening of Soviet publications. He stated that in order to get a complete picture of activity occurring in a specific locality, it is necessary to refer to a good, current map. He believed that the undersigned would be able to get one that would best serve such a purpose. The Case Officer stated that he would look into the matter.

Recommendation: It is recommended, upon approval of the SR/3 Branch Chief, that maps covering the Ukraine SSR (sterilized as to originating office of production) be obtained by the Case Officer and turned over to CASSOWARY 15 for use by the Group. The German series 1:100,000 would be the most ideal for their use since they are acquainted with this series and know that the U. S. Government is in possession of them.

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